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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor(s) : Kevin A. CURTIS et al.

Serial No. : 09/336,031

Filing Date : June 18, 1999

For : METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR REFERENCING  
ARCHIVING AND RETRIEVING SYMBOLICALLY  
LINKED INFORMATION

Group Art Unit : 2172

Examiner : Ella Colbert

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

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**AMENDMENT**

SIR:

This Amendment addresses the Office Action of December 5, 2001. Initially, please  
amend the above-identified application, as set forth below.

**In The Claims:**

41. (New) A method for storing and referencing symbolically linked information in an  
environment wherein a plurality of different symbols are conventionally utilized to refer to a  
single entity, comprising the steps of:

receiving a plurality of input symbols, each pertaining to a same single entity;  
for each of the plurality of input symbols, generating a normalized master symbol;  
determining a unique parent symbol corresponding to the master symbols;  
storing the parent symbol and the plurality of master symbols in a master symbol  
database wherein each of the plurality of normalized master symbols is linked to the  
parent symbol.

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